

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshitaka SASAKI et al.

Application No.: Rule 53(b) Continuing Application of  
U.S. Application No. 09/748,207, filed  
December 27, 2000

Filed: March 2, 2004

Docket No.: 108272.02

For: THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

Rule 53(b) Continuing Application  
of U.S. Application No. 09/748,207  
Filed December 27, 2000

2. The references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 09/748,207, filed December 27, 2000, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,



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| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 8-83)  |   |  | US Dept. of Commerce<br><b>PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE</b><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) |                | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>108272.02            |                        | APPLICATION NO.<br>Rule 53(b) Continuing<br>Application of U.S.<br>Application No. 09/748,207 |  |
|---|---|--|--|----------------|---|------------------------|---|--|
|   |   |  |  |                | APPLICANT(S)<br>Yoshitaka SASAKI et al. |                        |   |  |
|   |   |  |  |                | FILING DATE<br>March 2, 2004            |                        |   |  |
| <b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>  |   |  |  |                |   |                        |   |  |
| EXAMINER INITIAL  |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER  | DATE   | NAME           |   | CLASS                  | SUB CLASS   |  |
|   | 1 | 6,083,410  | 07/2000  | Ikegawa et al. |   |                        |   |  |
|   | 2 | 6,333,841  | 12/2001  | Sasaki         |   |                        |   |  |
|   | 3 | 6,459,551  | 10/2002  | Hayakawa       |   |                        |   |  |
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|   |   |  |  |                |   |                        |   |  |
|   |   |  |  |                |   |                        |   |  |
|   |   |  |  |                |   |                        |   |  |
| <b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>   |   |  |  |                |   |                        |   |  |
|   |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER  | DATE   | COUNTRY        |   | CLASS                  | SUB CLASS   |  |
|   | 4 | JP A 4-232250  | 08/1992  | Japan          |   |                        |   |  |
|   | 5 | JP A 9-91618   | 04/1997  | Japan          |   |                        |   |  |
|   | 6 | JP A 11-353616   | 12/1999  | Japan          |   |                        |   |  |
|   | 7 | JP A 11-39614  | 12/1999  | Japan          |   |                        |   |  |
|   | 8 | WO 99/41739  | 08/1999  | WIPO           |   |                        |   |  |
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| <b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>   |   |  |  |                |   |                        |   |  |
|   |   | Ericsson et al.; "Properties of Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> -films deposited on silicon by atomic layer epitaxy"; Microelectronic Engineering 36 (1997) 91-94 |  |                |   |                        |   |  |
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| <b>EXAMINER</b>   |   |  |  |                |   | <b>DATE CONSIDERED</b> |   |  |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |   |  |  |                |   |                        |   |  |

Date: March 2, 2004